

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-21 are presently active in this case, Claims 13, 14 and 20 having been amended by the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Nakamura et al (6,411,273), hereinafter called "Nakamura." Claims 14-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Kimura (6,281,826). Claims 20 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Nakamura in view of Kimura.

First, it is noted that the above change to Claim 13 corrects a minor grammatical informality. Further, Claims 14-20 have been amended to state more particularly the structure of the recited "output circuit" as having a passing electric current prevention --unit-- which prevents a passing electric current to flow from a power supply terminal of the output terminal to a ground terminal in the sampling period. Thus, the changes to Claims 14 and 20 result in the recitation of structure versus functionality, and these changes are not believed to raise a question of new matter.

Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding grounds for rejection because in Applicants' view the claimed invention patentably defines over the cited references, for the reasons as next discussed.

With respect to Claim 1, Claim 1 defines the subject liquid crystal display of Applicants' invention as including a pixel array portion, a plurality of first latch circuits, a plurality of second latch circuits, a plurality of data converters, and a signal line selection circuit configured to switch whether said analog gradation voltage is supplied to each signal line so that said signal lines and said pixel array portion are driven every multiple signal lines

in multiple times. Provision of the recited signal line selection circuit makes it possible to reduce the number of first latch circuits, second latch circuits and D/A converters, and also to reduce the area on which the signal line drive circuit is implemented, as compared with the conventional circuit.

In contrast, Nakamura as shown in Figures 9 and 11 teaches that one signal line is connected to one D/A converter 104. Nakamura neither discloses nor suggests configurations including the recited signal line selection circuit recited in Claim 1. On the contrary, in Nakamura, the same number of D/A converters 104 as the number of signal lines is necessary. Therefore, according to the Nakamura disclosure, it is not possible to reduce the number of D/A converters. In view of this deficiency, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-13 clearly patentably define over Nakamura.

Likewise, Applicant respectfully traverses the outstanding rejection of Claims 14-21 directed to a data latch circuit. In this regard, Applicant directs attention to the last paragraph of each of Claims 14 and 20 which state that the output circuit of the respective data latch circuit includes a passing electric current prevention unit which prevents a passing electric current to flow from a power supply terminal of the output circuit towards a ground terminal in the sampling period. Applicant's provision of the passing electric current prevention unit advantageously results in a reduction in power consumption.

On the other hand, Kimura neither discloses nor suggests a passing electric current prevention unit. While Applicant acknowledges that the outstanding Office Action relies on elements 400 and 500 of Figure 7A of Kimura as corresponding to the data latch circuit, Kimura neither discloses nor suggests that the elements 400 and 500 have a passing electric current prevention unit and accordingly, in the absence of a passing electric current prevention unit, the consumption of current increases in the Kimura data latch is compared with Applicant's claimed data latch. In view of this deficiency, it is respectfully submitted

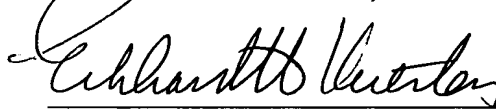
that Kimura in no way renders obvious the claimed invention recited in Claims 14 and 20.

Claims 14-21 are therefore also believed to be patentably distinguishing over Kimura whether considered alone or in combination with Nakamura.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, and in light of the above-discussion is respectfully submitted that the outstanding grounds for rejection are traversed and that Claims 1-21 are in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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